

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

It was unfortunate that our Garden Party had to be transformed into a tea party held in the village Hall but the weather conditions were such that an outside venue was simply not possible. The change did not dampen the enthusiasm of the participants, however and over 90 guests attended

The afternoon commenced with the presentation of the Branch standard together with that of Battle, who kindly agreed to support the event. Awards were then given by Mrs Valerie Wright the Chair of the Parish Council to village poppy collectors who had done so much for the fund for many years. This was followed by the issue of Badges to six Veterans, this function being carried out by Brigadier J Bradford DSO, a distinguished soldier who served in WW2 in the Burma Campaign. The final award was to our Chairman, Mr E Burgess and was from the branch to thank him for all his work; this was presented by Cllr. R, Harris, Mayor of Battle.

Despite some solemn moments there was an air of celebration as the trophy won at national level - The Jellico Cup -(awarded to the RBL Branch which gains the greatest increase in members in a three year period) - was proudly displayed and there was no modesty in the celebration cake which bore the legend - "WE WON THE CUP"

After a buffet tea with strawberries and cream, there was the judging of the best hat competition which was won by Mrs Valerie Wright. The closing ceremony saw the standards paraded from the hall to the bagpipe music of Pipe Major H Bracken, a branch member and distinguished musician. A highly successful and memorable event.

We also participated in the "Step Back in Time" event and had a very successful weekend, it was brilliant weather and we made £198.00 as well as displaying our standard and chatting to many people about the Branch and its work. Well done to all those who participated in and supported this event.

Our standard was, of course, paraded at the funeral of George Taylor on the 8th August 2007 along with that of Battle Branch. There was a very large turn out including 9 of our members.